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MAR 2 6 2007

Attorney Docket No.: AM-8893

U.S. Express Mail No. EB 125487944 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Ki-Ho Baik, et al.

§ GROUP ART UNIT: 1763

SERIAL NO.: 10/817,140

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5214 12 110 11 10 10 17,110

§ EXAMINER: B.L. Raymond

FILED: April 2, 2004

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FOR: METHOD OF IMPROVING THE UNIFORMITY

OF A PATTERNED RESIST ON A PHOTOMASK

§ ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:

AM-8893

Date: March 26, 2007

AMENDMENT "A" UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111 TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is applicants' Amendment "A" in response to the Office Action mailed on January 24, 2007, which has a shortened statutory period for response of April 24, 2007.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. EB 125487944 US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: March 26, 2007

Shirley L./Church, Reg. No. 31,858

Attorney Docket No.: AM-8893 U.S. Express Mail No. EB 125487944 US

CALCULATION OF FEES DUE					
	Number of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims Present	Rate	Fee
Total Claims	17	20	0	x \$50.00 =	\$ 0.00
Independent			-		
Claims	4	4	0	X \$200.00 =	\$ 0.00
If multiple dependent claims are presented, (add \$360.00)					\$ 0.00
•					
TOTAL FEE DUE					\$ 0.00

Applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with the filing of this Amendment "A". However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and §1.17, which are required by this paper, to Deposit Account No. 50-1512 of Shirley L. Church, Esq., of San Diego, California.

This transmittal letter is submitted in duplicate for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

Correspondence Address:

Patent Counsel Applied Materials, Inc. P.O. Box 450 A Santa Clara, CA 95052 Shirley L. Church, Esq. Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 31,858 (858) 587-6633

Attorney Docket No.: AM-8893

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

E APPLICATION OF: Ki-Ho Baik et al.

§ GROUP ART UNIT: 1756

SERIAL NO.: 10/817,140

EXAMINER: B. L. Raymond

FILED: April 2, 2004

§ Attorney Docket No.:

FOR: METHOD OF IMPROVING THE UNIFORMITY OF A

AM-8893

PATTERNED RESIST ON A PHOTOMASK

3 1111 0075

Date: March 26, 2007

AMENDMENT "A" UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The present Amendment "A" is in response to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007, the Office Action having a shortened statutory period for response of April 24, 2007. Claims 1 - 17 are pending in the application.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. EB 125487944 US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 26, 2007

Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

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Attorney Docket No.: AM-8893

Claims 4, 5 and 9 - 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 - 3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kirkpatrick (U.S. Patent Application 2006/0084229).

Claims 4 - 7 and 9 - 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirpatrick in view of Itoh (U.S. Patent Application 2004/0058279).

Please amend the application as follows.